

What needs to be considered when an individual who has received at least 60 months of time limited benefits wants to lift their Employment First sanction?

Since an Employment First sanction results in closure of the ADC cash assistance for at least 30 days, when an individual makes a request to lift their Employment First sanction, they must re-apply for ADC. They are then considered an applicant for assistance and the eligibility requirements for an applicant are applied. Because of this, if they have received 60 or more months of time-limited cash assistance, they are not eligible to receive ADC, and thus not eligible for Employment First, unless they:

1. They were employed and lost the job through no fault of their own:

--ADC benefits will be extended for three months.

--Service plan must be developed with Job Search as the only approved work activity.

OR

2. Are eligible for exemption due to incapacity or Domestic Violence:

--ADC benefits will be extended for the length of the exemption, plus an additional three months to allow for intensive job search.

Because of the seriousness of this issue, it is imperative that Employment First case managers be aware if a participant has reached their 60-month time limit at the time they are considering a sanction. Hopefully there have been ongoing discussions between case managers and participants about the impact of non-participation on the family's benefits.

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